



Strandwood Dinner/Dance FAQs
www.strandwood.cmarket.com

1. What is cMarket?

cMarket is an online auction site that helps thousands of schools each year raise millions of dollars for new programs, curriculums, student services and activities. The online auction will give **all** Strandwood families and others the chance to participate when they cannot attend the actual Dinner/Dance Auction on March 6th, 2010.

2. What items will be available for purchase on cMarket?

All teacher donations/experiences and class projects will be available on cMarket only. These items will only be available online and will not be available for purchase at the March 6th event. We are also putting a variety of other auction items available for purchase on cMarket. Please pay careful attention to the description detail.

3. Who can participate in the online auction?

The auction is open to the entire Strandwood community and beyond. Register today and bid away! Last year we had several grandparents and out-of-town friends bid and win the special classroom project for their favorite Strandwood student!

4. How can I purchase tickets to the Dinner Dance event?

All tickets can be purchased on cMarket. Pre-sales begin January 15-January 30th and the cost of each ticket is \$40.00. After February 1st, the cost increases to \$45 per ticket. Within a week of your ticket purchase, you will receive a Confirmation Email. Please check your Spam folder if you do not receive an email from us in your inbox. A guest list will be held at the door. If you are purchasing a ticket for a different person, please contact Cindy Turner at pcturner@sbcglobal.net and we will make the necessary changes.

5. When can I start bidding on items?

The online auction will begin on February 1st and end Friday, March 5th.

6. Will there still be a silent and live auction at the dinner dance?

Yes, there will still be plenty of other items available for the silent and live auctions.

7. Why are we using an online auction?

We hope to encourage school-wide participation in the PTA's largest fundraiser of the year. Due to a limited number of dance tickets sold, only 30% of Strandwood families attend the Dinner. One of the objectives of cMarket is to allow ALL families an opportunity to bid on their child's class and teacher items. In the past, some parents and children have felt left out because they were not attending the Dinner/Dance event. By offering auction items on the internet, we hope to enable all families to participate regardless of their attendance at the actual event on March 6th.

Our research has shown that in the past, donated class auction baskets did not bring in much money when compared to the retail value of the basket. We have also heard that many class auction coordinators have found it difficult to secure donations. What we have concluded is that parents LOVE class projects! Many of the homemade student projects have secured high selling prices because parents covet the beloved quilt or trunk and competition is definitely a good thing at a school auction.

8. Is my information on cMarket secure?

Yes. For the security of the bidder while visiting the auction, cMarket uses VeriSign. To view more information about VeriSign, go to the item pages and click on the VeriSign logo. All credit cards are processed by IATS (a Ticketmaster company) and are not handled by Strandwood parents.

9. When does the online Auction end?

The online Auction will close on Friday, March 5, 2010.

7pm – Class Projects Close

8pm – Teacher Experiences Close

9pm – Online auction items that are available only on cMarket will close

12. When will I be notified that I am a winning bidder?

Winners will be notified via email with 48 hours after the auction ends, no later than Monday, March 8th. The confirmation email will serve as your receipt of payment and will have all pertinent tax information. Please check your Spam folder if you have not received the confirmation email to your inbox by Monday, March 8th.

13. Where and when can I get the items I win on cMarket?

All auction items purchased on cMarket can be picked up at the Strandwood PTA room before and after school on March 8th, 9th and 10th. If you need to make other arrangements, please contact Cindy Turner at pcturner@sbcglobal.net. Shipping charges will apply on all items to be mailed.

14. How do I donate?

We are constantly looking for new items to feature on our auction. Not only will you be supporting a worthwhile cause, but your products and services will be showcased in front of the entire Strandwood community. If you have an item you would like to feature on this auction, please contact Cindy Turner at pcturner@sbcglobal.net